

Le Roy Aug. 22<sup>d</sup> 1835

Dear Wife

South Town

Arthur Tappan

18- I do not wait until I hear from you in re-  
-ply to my last, because owing to some change in my ar-  
-rangements I find myself here instead of in Utica about the  
time when I should expect to hear from you. I came here  
to attend a County Anti-Slavery meeting. The place, if you  
can find it on the map, you will see, is far West, almost  
to Buffalo. I have left directions to have my letters forwarded  
to me from Utica to Rochester, & I purpose to be in Rochester  
a week from to-morrow & then shall hope to find a  
letter from you. In the mean time I go into the South  
part of this County. From Rochester I shall go to Buffalo.  
I wish you however to direct your letters to me at  
Rochester after you receive this until you hear from  
me again. I need not tell you that I am very anxious  
to hear from you, I don't know when I have been  
more so. I am enabled however to cast my anxiety  
on this as on other subjects on the Lord. I am still in  
great doubt as to the course to be pursued by us the  
next winter. How to leave my present field I do not  
know, so long as it is so difficult, next to impossible  
to get others to enter, <sup>it</sup> & besides I know not what else to  
do for a living should I do it. I am however fixed  
on this, that either in this County or in St Domingo I



Much & shall be with you. If I do not go to St. Domingo, I shall either labor in the vicinity of Farmington, so that for the most part I can be with you, or if Western N. York is the field of labor shall bring you & the family out here.

I am more & more satisfied of the wisdom of our decision in regard to your coming out here at this time. The places are far apart & the modes of conveyance uncomfortable, & you would have been housed up long since if you had had the exposure I have since I came into this region.

In regard to St. Domingo, I think a voyage there would do you good, & I am anxious you should try it, Can I possibly bring it about & should you be disposed to venture it. However I leave this for future decision.

My own health is good - quite good. I feel the need of some of my winter clothes however, for the weather here has been very cold for a few days past, & there is a much greater difference between the temperature of the day & the night here than at the East.

The country here is really a splendid one - its resources inexhaustible - & its population good materials to make radicals of. Our cause in the region seems to be in its infancy, but it has laid hold of the right kind of materials & by the blessing of God, will speedily grow up to the maturity & strength of manhood. All the people want is light, & yet there is the same negro hatred here, the same political influences, the same love of Colonization, the same Corruption in ~~the Church~~ & the Priesthood,



the same Priest & Levite pity in the church, the same  
shutting of the eyes to light, the same stopping of the ears to  
the cry of the suffering & oppressed - in one word, the same  
every thing that is wicked & hateful to God to contend with  
here ~~as as elsewhere as elsewhere~~ as at the East. Indeed as  
there, so here, if there ever was a cause that had to  
make its way up the stream of human depravity ~~this~~  
is that cause. However it is God's Cause & will, I doubt <sup>not</sup>,  
triumph. But I am more & more persuaded that some of us  
will have to fall as martyrs in its first. The spirit of slavery  
is so desperate - so relentless - so cruel - that I do not believe we  
shall escape its wrath. Mr Tappan had ~~sent~~ an anonymous  
letter the other day from the South, saying that four men  
had left South Carolina <sup>for New York</sup>, under a vow that they would not  
leave New York & Arthur Tappan alive in it! Very possibly it  
is all a hoax & still I should not be surprised to hear at  
any moment that Arthur Tappan has been assassinated.  
God I think is training us in this school for some great en-  
terprise - some mighty conflict with sin & I think he will not  
fail to try our confidence in him. And what if he does? - and  
what if A. Tappan or any one else dies by the hand of the as-  
sassin, what is the difference after all, to him, whether he dies  
so or is taken off by a fever? And what after all is death?  
And why should we be afraid to die? But enough - you see ~~that~~  
that after all, we have thoroughly reached & roused the South. We  
shall go on, & the issue, whatever may become of us, is not at  
all doubtful. Write me on the receipt of this. Your dear husband  
A. A. Phelps



Ames A. Phelps-  
Le Roy - Aug. 22. 1835

Paid. Le Roy Augt - 23 - My. Paid 18

Mrs. Charlotte Phelps.  
Farmington.  
Conn.